



Corrections Standards Authority

James E. Tilton, Chair

C. Scott Harris, Executive Director

Quarterly Report: April-September 2007

www.cdcr.ca.gov

DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT



GUIDING PRINCIPLE Partnering with local jurisdictions

The Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (ACJJDP) formerly known as the State Advisory Group: The ACJJDP has deemed the DMC initiative one of several priority areas needing continued subject matter expertise. As such, a **DMC Subcommittee** has been formed to assist with the process evaluation of the Enhanced DMC Technical Assistance Project and to identify additional opportunities for California to address DMC at the state and local level.

Enhanced DMC TAP Grants: The five counties involved in the Enhanced DMC-TAP grant are making progress in their infrastructure efforts. All five counties have commenced DMC training throughout their respective departments using a variety of different approaches and relying on their collaborations with their chosen DMC experts. The final quarter will involve developing plans for moving forward into the second phase, which will focus on continued collaborations and education and developing a DMC reduction plan involving the county stakeholders. Please see program highlights on page 2.

Enhanced DMC TAP Process Evaluation: The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Corrections Standards Authority (CSA) has issued a [Request for Proposals](#) (RFP) for a **process evaluation** of the Enhanced Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Technical Assistance Project (TAP). Based on recommendations from the ACJJDP's DMC Subcommittee, which guided development of the RFP, the CSA Board will award a grant of up to \$200,000 in available federal funds for the grant that will commence January 1, 2008. The purpose of the process evaluation is to assist the CSA in planning future DMC activities by identifying the operational strengths and limitations of the first two phases of the Enhanced DMC-TAP, both of which represent a pioneering approach to addressing DMC.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE Enhancing CSA and stakeholder knowledge

Title II Formula Grants Program: The first Title II DMC training was held June 27th, 2007 for the Project Directors of the Title II grants. The priority of the DMC educational mandate within the Title II program is to provide a fundamental understanding of what DMC is and how it relates to prevention/intervention programs. The training included a panel discussion by experts in the field: Dr. Barry Krisberg, President of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency; Chief Probation Officer Judy Cox, Santa Cruz County; Sandra McBrayer, ACJJDP member and CEO of the Children's Initiative, San Diego; Julie Posadas Guzman, co-founder of Girl's Justice Initiative and moderated by DMC expert Monique Morris, Senior Research Fellow at UC Berkeley. The training was very well received.

CSA DMC Technical Assistance: At the request of local jurisdictions, the DMC coordinator provides basic DMC education and related technical assistance. The education piece is provided through a training module developed by CSA staff for those counties wanting to better understand the meaning of DMC, the history of DMC and what expectations are related to the DMC mandate at the federal level.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE Ensuring progress is made

Department of Justice Collaborative: CSA staff currently collaborates with the California Department of Justice in obtaining statewide DMC data through the Juvenile Court Probation Statistical System.



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SAN DIEGO COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

San Diego county has undertaken an impressive data collection effort that includes key stakeholders. SANDAG completed data collection and data entry on over 1,000 juvenile case files. San Diego has a strong focus on bringing together agencies and individuals to emphasize developing countywide cross-agency DMC strategies. The effort San Diego has put into building cooperation and trust has allowed data collection and sharing with local law enforcement, the Probation Department, the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, School Police, the Health and Human Services Agency, community based organizations, the Juvenile Court, and the Sheriff's Department. This recently resulted in a big payoff for San Diego county when it was conducting interviews for the purpose of identifying decision points and opportunities to reduce DMC. Because of the relationship building it had done, the county was able to gather input from these major stakeholders, which resulted in a more complete and comprehensive data collection effort. The information gathered puts San Diego in a solid position to move forward on DMC efforts in the coming years.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Santa Cruz county has made a huge effort to train probation staff in DMC. With the delivery of its DMC 101 training last March, 80 percent of staff have now been trained. The DMC 101 training was presented by the W. Haywood Burns Institute staff and provided participants, including all levels of probation staff as well as community based organizations, with an outstanding educational foundation on DMC issues on a national, state and local level. Perhaps more importantly, it served as a catalyst for staff becoming involved and excited about the work that will take place in Santa Cruz county over the next few years. Following the DMC 101 training, Santa Cruz established six committees comprised of staff from all levels of the organization, as well as consultants, to move the agency forward in several important areas. The committees are: Data Dictionary, Policy, Training, Data Collection, Risk Assessment Index, and Data Mart. Santa Cruz's training effort will continue with DMC 201 training in October.

News/Opportunities

- The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention hosted its Annual Disproportionate Minority Contact Conference October 25th-27th in Denver, Colorado. CSA's DMC Coordinator presented California's approach to DMC reduction and representatives from San Francisco, Santa Clara, and San Diego counties shared their experience as it relates to DMC.
- The Casey Family Programs are proud to be launching an initiative focused on reducing disproportionality and disparities in outcomes for children of color in the child welfare system through several public, private and non-profit partnerships in California. The partners in this work include the California Department of Social Services and the Casey Family Programs. The goal is to launch the initiative in January 2008, which will include approximately 14 county agencies and a state-level team.
- A good resource for those who are working with at-risk, or juvenile justice-involved, youth of color is the Community Justice Network for Youth (CJNY). Check them out on the web at: <http://www.cjny.org/home.html>.